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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK.

In the north of the Russian battle-front, the Germans are on the defensive, while the Russians are counter-attacking near Leningrad. In the centre, the threat to Moscow is still there, but during the last few days, the situation has been easier. The nearest point the Germans have reached is 30 to 40 miles near the City. In the south, the situation is serious. The Nazis are possibly 10 or 15 miles from Rostov. The battle for Crimea, which the Germans claim to have penetrated, is still raging, but the Germans have lost enormously in men and material. The Russians have evacuated Kharkov.

The ' invade Europe ' cry is still heard in Great Britain and elsewhere. Mr. Anthony Eden gave a pledge that the Government would give Russia every help in their power by every means in their power. In this connection, he said that a treaty of alliance with Persia was being prepared which would bring about stabilty in that area and enable the British Government to open up a route of supplies to Russia which would have the inestimable advantage of being available at all seasons of the year. Arrangements to increase the capacity of the railways and the volume of traffic the roads can carry are already being made.

The following points as regards recent developments in America may be noted :—

(1) The majority of Senators favour the widening of the Bill to amend the Neutrality Act so as to permit American ships to sail anywhere. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has voted in favour of arming ships to sail anywhere on the high seas.

(2) The United States tank production programme would be approximately doubled, according to President Roosevelt. The new programme exceeded 2,000 medium tanks monthly.

(3) The 5,985 million dollar Lease and Lend Bill has been passed by both the Houses and has been signed by the President.

(4) It is estimated that American planes will be turned out at the rate of 250 planes daily from July 1942 and the present rate of joint Anglo-American production is stated to be 35,000 yearly.

Mr. Churchill addressed a communication to the Greek Prime Minister on the anniversary of the attack by Italy on Greece. After expressing the gratitude of the British people to the Hellenes for all they have done and are doing for the Allied cause, he referred to Greece's Albanian victories. Mr. Churchill continued : " The glory of Greece shines not only in her antiquity but even brighter in these tragic years. It is vindicated by the constancy of her people in cruel bondage. Their martyrdom will be avenged by a pan-Hellenic army of liberation. The unity of all her sons and daughters behind their King and Government in the cause of their fatherland will bring its sure reward."

The Berlin radio paid a tribute to the effectiveness of British convoys. The anti-aircraft defences of the Atlantic convoys were

ferocious. An attack on a convoy was comparable, it is said, with nothing less than the desperate assault on a mighty and powerful line of fortifications by great infantry assault units. The fact that all merchantmen were armed with one or several anti-air guns or machine guns and carried barrage balloons with their malicious steel cables made attack extremely difficult. Those commanding the convoys were efficient and vigilant and the anti-aircraft guns were directed with uncanny precision.

President Roosevelt stated at a press conference that he had heard a report that Hitler had gone to one of the prominent Jews in Germany and told him that he would be allowed to remain in that country if he would disclose how Moses made the waters of the Red Sea stand aside in order that the children of Israel could cross!

Col. Knox refused to say 'yes' or 'no' to the question put to him at a press conference whether the American Navy had sunk German submarines. But he added significantly: "The British have been in the war a long time, but you have not read of very many submarines being sunk by the British Navy. This does not mean that many have not been sunk. The withholding of news, however, is just a matter of obvious policy."

CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

The Battle for Russia has reached another critical phase. The Germans claim that three divisions supported by aircraft and tanks have broken through the Russian defences on the Perekop Isthmus and penetrated into the Crimean Peninsula. It is added that 15,000 prisoners were captured, while 13 tanks and 109 guns were taken or destroyed. The number of prisoners claimed in relation to artillery and tanks is quite disproportionate; either there should be more guns or fewer captives to make the claim reasonable, writes "Annalist," the famous military commentator. On the face of it, therfore, he concludes, this claim is unreasonable. The Germans may have penetrated into the Crimea, but the Russians will not shrink from admitting it if their lines have indeed been broken. The Russians admit, indeed, the seriousness of the fighting on the Perekop Isthmus and say that the enemy has obtained a foothold in the Soviet defences, but they are fighting like tigers to restore the situation. Assuming the German claim to be true, there is still plenty of room in the Crimea for the Russians to re-form their front and Sebastopol, their chief naval base in the south, is heavily fortified. If Soviet troops fight with the same spirit and tenacity as their comrades in the north, the Germans may find that penetration into the Crimea does not mean its conquest. The really sticky situation just now appears to be in the Donetz Basin between Kharkov and Rostov, because it looks a bit as if Marshal Timoshenko, who has taken over the supreme command of the Southern Russian Army from Marshal Budenny, is having some difficulty in consolidating his troops and establishing a front down here. Anyway the Germans are apparently pretty close to the strategically important town of Rostov, and have also occupied Kharkov, 200 miles to the north-west. As usual, the Germans announced with a fanfare of trumpets quite early in the week that they had taken Kharkov, but fighting continued on in the approaches to the city till a day or two ago. The Germans are making a strong bid for Rostov but the Russians are disputing every inch of the ground and are giving Marshal Timoshenko much-needed time to organise his defences on the Don river.

The latest communiqués from both German and Russian headquarters show that round Moscow the heaviest fighting is taking place at six points: at Kalinin, 100 miles north-west of the city, in the neighbourhood of Mojaisk and Malo-Yeroslavetz, 60 miles west, and 80 miles south-west respectively; and at Volokolansk, 60 miles to the north-west between Mojaisk and Moscow. Also further away to the south-west of the city, at Kaluga, and due south between Orel and Tula, where the fighting has been renewed after a comparative lull for a day or two. It is evident that the Germans do not relish the prospect of looking at Moscow through the telescope from winter quarters round the capital and they are going all out to take it and settle down there in comfort for the winter. Most bitter fighting has been going on; Germany's strongest forces and most numerous armoured divisions are striving their utmost to force a passage to this heart of Russian resistance. To date, German troops and aspirations have been foiled and the Nazis' claim to have "annihilated" the Russian Army of the Centre have been falsified. The Soviet troops, exhorted by their High Command not to yield an inch without struggle, have performed prodigies of valour; and the Battle of Moscow, even if it has not gone against Hitler, has certainly not yet been won by him.

And in the north Leningrad is defying all his attempts to storm it. The heroic defenders of that city have again and again taken the offensive at various points and given a hammering to the Germans. Air activity on both sides has increased in tempo. Moscow is now frequently raided but the Russians take a terrific toll of German bombers and, in their turn, have not only caused havoc to German communications in the front but also bombed Berlin.

AXIS NATIONALS IN AFGHANISTAN

A word of praise is due to the Afghan Government for expelling Axis nationals from Afghanistan. This step was taken as a result of friendly representations by the British and Russian Governments. Though only about 90 Germans and some Italians are involved, there can be no doubt that that their presence was a constant danger to India and to Iran as well as to the neutrality of Afghanistan. It is gratifying to note that Afghanistan, by following this advice, has protected herself against Axis nationals abusing the hospitality they have enjoyed by hostile acts or preparations. Of course, the menace of Axis fifth columnists in Iran was far greater and more immediate, but there is no doubt that the Afghan Government's response is in pleasing contrast to the attitude adopted by the ex-Shah of Iran and his Government. It may be stated that none of the 90 Axis nationals who are to leave Afghanistan has any diplomatic status, and no question of interference with diplomatic privileges arises because all Governments have the right at any time to expel aliens whose presence in their country is shown to be undesirable. If these hostile agents had been allowed to remain in Afghanistan, they would have tried to disturb the rear of the Caucasus-Nile front, the North-West Frontier of India and the peace of Afghanistan; and the Afghan Government would have found it very difficult to deal with them effectively because there are so many factions in that country in which the Axis agents would have found a fruitful field for disruptive activities.

"WILD JUSTICE" BY GERMANY

After world-wide protests and appeals by the Vichy Government, the Commander of the German-occupying troops in France has announced that he has suspended the executions of the hundred hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux following the killing of two German officers. He has added that he was, by this postponement, giving the population a chance 'to throw light on the outrages.' One cannot say how soon this decision will be reversed, for the Germans pay little heed to life when their prestige is affected or if they have an object to secure. Those who are familiar with German history after Hitler came into prominence know how he and his associates did not scruple to strike terror into their political opponents by indulging in blood-bath by killing scores of their whilom friends and collaborators in crime. But the world, which knew this, was, however, horrified by the shooting of Frenchmen at the rate of 50 for one German officer killed.

The Germans have been attempting to enforce the "New Order" in France ever since they occupied it in the middle of last year, but have they brought peace to that country? The "New Order" has only whetted the desire of Frenchmen to show their hatred of the oppressors by acts of sabotage and by killing of German officers. The other day a German controlled Paris newspaper deplored the fact that killing of German officers and soldiers had assumed a mass character and that the anti-German struggle had particularly intensified after Germany's attack on the U.S.S.R. What is this due to? It shows indubitably that the soul of France is alive and cannot be killed, whatever the Petains and Darlans may say or do.

Two hundred "Communist" hostages, it is said, have been executed in Yugoslavia, according to the Serb official newspaper *Nove Vreme*. The order for their execution was given by the Germans in reprisal for alleged attacks on German soldiers on October 18.

As the *Manchester Guardian* says: "Reprisals are a policy which the Germans understand but not, apparently, their results. Desperate and embittered men are increased, and not reduced, in number and daring by counter-strokes of violence. 'Revenge is a kind of wild justice which, the more man's nature runs to, the more ought law to weed it out.' But 'wild justice' of revenge must inevitably strike again and again, and no reprisals will root it out of men who are deprived of freedom and of the protection of law. It is almost terrifying to think of the hatred and contempt the Germans have earned for themselves."

PROTESTS AGAINST THE OUTRAGES

Feeling appeals and strong protests have been made against this wild justice. Marshal Petain is reported to have said that he was willing to hand himself over as a hostage in the occupied zone to prevent the execution of further batches of hostages. Even Admiral Darlan has been compelled by this frightfulness to appeal to Nazi authorities to stop the shootings. General de Gaulle, leader of the Free French, broadcast, on Thursday, an appeal to his countrymen not to kill Germans. He said that as soon as it was possible to attack from outside and inside, they would receive orders. Until then patience, preparation and resolution.

The Pope is said to have charged the Papal Nuncio in Berlin with the task of making a *demarche* to the German Government in favour of the hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux. But the most spectacular and forceful denunciation of this murder of hostages has come from President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill.

President Roosevelt in a formal statement said :—

" The practice of executing scores of innocent hostages in reprisals for isolated attacks on Germans in countries temporarily under the Nazi heel revolts a world, already inured to suffering and brutality. Civilized people long ago adopted the basic principle that no man should be punished for the deed of another. Unable to apprehend the persons involved in these attacks, the Nazis characteristically slaughter fifty or a hundred innocent persons.

" Those who would ' collaborate ' with Hitler or try to appease him cannot ignore this ghastly warning. The Nazis might, have learned from the last war the impossibility of breaking men's spirit by terrorism. Instead, they develop their *lebensraum* and ' New Order ' by depths of frightfulness, which even they have not approached before.

" Frightfulness can never bring peace to Europe. It only sows seeds of hatred, which will one day bring fearful retribution."

Mr. Churchill followed this up by associating the British Government with the sentiments of horror and condemnation expressed by the President of the United States in respect of the " cold-blooded executions of innocent people which would only recoil upon the savages who ordered the executions." Mr. Churchill, after referring to the butcheries in France said : " The atrocities in Poland, Yugoslavia, Norway, Holland, Belgium and, above all, behind the German front in Russia surpass anything that has been known since the darkest and most bestial ages of mankind. They are but a foretaste of what Hitler would inflict upon the British and American people if only he could get the power." He further declared : " Retribution for these crimes must henceforward take its place amongst the major purposes of this war."

ANOTHER PEACE OFFENSIVE

FAMILIAR NAZI TECHNIQUE

During the last few weeks, German propaganda has been busy in courting Great Britain in favour of fresh Nazi peace proposals. These reports did not all emanate from Germany. Nazi propaganda is clever, skilful and unscrupulous. Many of these feelers are therefore put out so that they might appear to proceed from neutral sources and as Dr. Goebbels is a master in the art of lying, he takes good care to make these lies as plausible as possible. These feelers are part of war strategy, indicating the enemy's need to recover strength for further offensives and reduce the *tempo* of Allied war effort. Now that according to the German High Command, Russia is collapsing, if it has not already collapsed, the moment has been chosen by Nazi propagandists to tell Great Britain that there are no vital differences which need force them to carry on the struggle against each other. Does not Great Britain hate Bolshevism as much as Germany does? Now that the "hell-born monster" is down, is not the time ripe for Great Britain and Germany to march together to save the world from the "Bolshevik disaster"? The Germans have also emphasized that they do not want anything from England—nothing at all. She may keep her colonies and dependencies and do whatever she pleases with them. Germany will not interfere. Only France would be deprived of her colonies and deprived also of the power of fomenting a war again. For, Germany wants the world to believe that it is France that is responsible for plunging the world into the Second Great War. French colonies would be distributed presumably between Germany, Italy and Japan, the Axis partners.

And yet, German propaganda did not scruple in the middle of last year to promise France that she would be treated liberally if she laid down her arms. As Viscount Maugham, lately Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, has stated "Lies to a people who have been induced to lay down their arms by promises of fair treatment followed by most cruel exactions constitute a category. It is a species of low cunning which would disgrace an ordinary bandit. Yet this is the practice followed by Hitler." For what did the German broadcast say on June 7, 1940 and the following days? "The Germans want peace and are ready to lay down their arms against you whenever you (French) wish." "The French have but to lay down their arms and lasting peace and security will be assured." "France has been beaten and has collapsed after a heroic resistance. Germany does not intend, therefore, to impose the character of degradation upon the conditions and negotiations for an armistice with such a valiant foe." And yet, the world knows how France has been treated after the armistice. Humiliations, cruelties and savagery are the order of the day, and to crown all, Dr. Goebbels has the audacity to tell the world that France's cup of humiliation is not full and that she would be deprived of her colonies because she is the cause of the present war.

GERMAN AIM

But this is by the way. In sending out these peace-feelers, Germany has but followed the familiar path she has treaded all along. Every military success is generally followed by such approaches to Great Britain to make peace with Germany and every time those approaches have been ignominiously rejected. The fact is that nobody in his senses is now willing to believe that Germany desires peace. Did not a Nazi leader say: "The Fuehrer proclaimed peace with gun in hand." The fact is that Germany believes that military power is the best guarantee for the assurance of peace. That is the reason why Germany has paid great attention to the production of tanks, guns and planes for six years. Dr. Goebbels has stated: "We can do without butter, but despite all our love of peace not without arms. One cannot shoot with butter but with guns." Hitler himself has said in his book that "The cruellest weapons are, in fact, the most humane, for they curtail the slaughter in the long run." Pacifism, Germany has always proclaimed, was the enemy of mankind, at any rate of Germany and that the strong alone would be able to carry on, while the weak would perish by feebleness. A German officer bluntly stated a few years ago that "the next war will require the highest degree of brutality and so the uneducated man would best be able to work the war-machine." The object, therefore, of Germany, which believes in fierce militarism, armed might and limitless brutality, in making peace proposals is pretty obvious. It is to make England allow herself to be lulled into a sense of false security, as also to tell her that she would be the victim of the cruellest deeds of German airmen if she persevered in her folly of continuing the war.

The tactics of peace offensive has recently been described by Mr. James Murphy in a booklet he has written on Rudolph Hess. He says:

> "The direct military purpose of destroying the enemy's armed strength and the sources of his supplies is no longer the main objective. The Germans think that by spreading conquest and destruction they will eventually terrorize their enemies into

subjection or at least induce them to consider terms of peace. That is what is strangest of all in this war. It is with the same purpose in view that they threaten to renew the ruthless bombing of British towns and cities."

In the author's view, the visit of Hess to Great Britain is a typical instance of this policy carried out in concert with General Goering. It would appear that the bombings at the beginning of May 1941 purposely reached the climax with the bombing of London on May 10, the evening on which Hess arrived in Scotland. The Germans thought they would strike terror into the British hearts. "It was not a stunt on Hess's part, nor was it a break-away from his party. It was part of a policy that had been thought out months ahead. The dramatic method of the approach was quite in Hitler's Wagnerian style. It was the first step in a new peace offensive. And undoubtedly Hitler was a party to it."

GERMAN PROPAGANDA

The campaign against Russia is another of such peace offensives. The purpose of Germany in invading the Soviet Union is the smashing of the Russian war-machine and the acquisition of resources and industrial capacity so as to compensate for the British blockade and to enable the German High Command to strike with all its force at Britain. There are three important features in this ambitious programme: thrust to Moscow; penetration into the Caucasus and cutting the Anglo-American supply-route to Russia; and dispersal of Britain's forces and of her war-effort. In the middle of the current month, Turkish broadcasts in Urdu, Persian and Arabic stated that the last offensive had opened a way for the possibilities of an armistice or peace. There are two conjectures in this respect: the cessation of hostilities between Germany and Russia, and an armistice or peace between Britain and Germany. The Turkish report allowed some credence to the latter conjecture, stating that a British General had gone to Madrid and the visit might have some connexion with peace-feelers. The real fact is that the Turkish broadcast was Nazi in origin though those responsible for it did not realise it.

There is, of course, absolutely no possibility of Great Britain and her Allies walking into the German parlour. Mr. Roosevelt, President of the United States, has emphatically stated that there can be no peace before the end of Hitlerism. Mr. Anthony Eden has stated the same thing on a number of occasions. Field Marshal Smuts said only the other day that the belief that a favourable peace could be concluded with Hitler at the end of the war was absolutely infantile. "A Nazi victory," he said, "spells a Nazi or Nazi-dependent South Africa, governed by Nazi Quislings for Hitler. And the fundamental question before South Africa is whether we will accept such a Nazi order or fight it to death." Field Marshal Smuts added that if the Allies lost the war, they would get Hitler and nothing else. There can be no doubt whatsoever that to the malicious Nazi propaganda there is only one answer. Neither Great Britain nor America would ever "parley with faithless men," and they well realise that the object of such feelers is to spread doubt and confusion.

RUSSIA

Nazi Promise—"The Soviet people can once more be free from oppression; and one of the first measures of the German administration will be the restoration of religious freedom."

That is what the Zeesen announcer said in a broadcast to the Soviet people on the day the German armies invaded Russia.

And Performance—This is what happened in Germany on October 17, 1941:—

"Twenty thousand Jews in Berlin, Vienna and the Rhineland received only ten minutes warning that they were being deported to Poland. They were compelled to leave their homes forthwith, taking only a small hand-bag and 100 marks each. The first group has been sent to the Lodz Ghetto; others will be sent further east to Ghettos of towns in Eastern Poland. The majority are between 50 and 80 years old; younger Jews are being kept in Germany to labour on behalf of the Reich.

"The German Government, it is stated, intends to send all German and Austrian Jews to Eastern Poland, the Ukraine and other occupied territories in Russia. Deportations will be carried out gradually, the rate depending on the Royal Air Force bombardment of German cities, which is causing great shortage of habitable houses. Bombed-out Germans will be installed in houses which the Jews must leave fully furnished and complete with linen, plate and other household goods."—*Reuter*.

MRS ROOSEVELT'S REVELATIONS

GERMAN PLANS FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Mr. Roosevelt has again spoken and has again irritated the Germans. In his speech at the Navy Day Banquet in Washington on Tuesday last, he referred to the successive attacks on American ships by Germans and said that shooting had started. History had recorded who fired the first shot but that in the long run all that mattered was who fired the last shot. The purpose of Hitler's attack was to frighten the American people off the high seas. Germany had tried the game before, but American policy was not dominated by the fear of shooting. It stood for self-interest, self-respect and good faith and American ships would not stand behind any line that Hitler might draw because freedom of the seas had been the fundamental policy of America.

President Roosevelt made two startling revelations regarding Germany's plans of conquest in the Western Hemisphere. He said he had in his possession a secret map of South America made in Germany by Hitler's Government. It was a map of South America and part of Central America as Hitler proposed to reorganize it. Geographical experts in Berlin divided South America in that map into five vassal states in the place of the 14 separate countries now in existence and one of them included the Republic of Panama and the Panama canal. That map made it clear that the Nazi design was not only against South America but against the United States itself.

Another document in the possession of the American Government is a detailed plan to abolish all existing religions, Protestant, Catholic, Muhammadan, Hindu, Buddhist and Jewish. All the churches will be seized by the Reich. The Cross and all other symbols of religion are to be forbidden. The clergy are to be for ever silenced under penalty of the concentration camps, because they place God above Hitler. In place of the churches of the present civilization there is to be set up an international Nazi Church. In place of the Bible the *Mein Kampf* will be imposed and enforced as the holy writ and in the place of the Cross of Christ will be put two symbols —the Swastika and the naked sword. The God of blood and iron will take place of God of love and mercy.

The truth of this statement about the attitude of the Nazis towards the Church has since been confirmed by the publication of the programme of the German National Reich Church.

" On the day when a national church is established, Christ's Cross must be removed from all cathedrals, churches and chapels within Germany and Germany's colonial frontiers ", states the programme of the German National Reich Church distributed in pamphlet form in Germany, according to the newspaper *Die Nation*. The Cross, the paper adds, " must be replaced by the sole invincible symbol of Germany—the Swastika." The German National Church claims " exclusive power over all the churches within the German frontiers " and is " unchangeably resolved by all necessary means to extinguish the Christian faith imported into Germany in the unhappy year, 1800. It must take the strictest precautions in order to render impossible the importation of bibles and documents appertaining to the Christian religion and declares that the greatest document for our people is ' Mein Kampf.' National Church serves solely and exclusively on the doctrine—race and people."

After referring to the few Americans who said that America should not concern herself with anything that went on beyond rifle-shot of American shores, the President said that the forward march of Hitler " can be stopped and will be stopped," and that America was pledged to the destruction of Hitlerism. For this purpose, America was determined to send vital arms and supplies of all kinds to those who were fighting Hitlerism and those goods would neither be locked up in American harbours nor sent to the bottom of the sea. He said that the House of Representatives had already voted to amend part of the Neutrality Act of 1937 and that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee had recommended the elimination of other hamstringing provisions of that Act. Speaking of labour troubles, he said that American factories and shipyards were constantly expanding and that American output should be multiplied and that it should not be hampered by the selfish obsrtruction of the small but dangerous minority of industrial managers.

The defence of America was now constantly before the Government. The Navy had assumed unprecedented size and it was ready for action. Total national defence had been decided upon and the first objective of that defence was to stop Hitler.

In regard to Aid to Russia, the President said that Russia needed all kinds of help, planes, tanks, guns, medical supplies and other aids and the United States and Great Britain were giving all these in great quantities. " Upon our American production," President Roosevelt said, " falls the colossal task of equipping our own armed forces and helping to supply the British, the Russians and the Chinese. In the performance of that task we dare not fail."

THE GERMAN THRUST IN THE SOUTH

THE BLACK SEA

There is now a German thrust along the Azov towards Rostov. The capture of Azov would bring the Germans to the Don, the first line of defence of the Caucasus. The Azov may be made the base of attack either south-east towards the Caucasian mountain rampart or north-west towards Stalingrad on the Volga. Stalingrad is on the line of communications between the Caucasus and central Russia. If Crimea falls into the hands of the Germans, that would remove a threat to the German line of communications, but more important still, it would deprive the Soviet Black Sea Fleet of its main naval base of Sebastopol. Only Batum, in the Caucasus, would remain with the Russians and its range of operations would be severely restricted owing to fuelling difficulties and Crimea-based air operation. Sebastopol would be a convenient base for small craft and also a base for long-range bombing attacks on the Caucasus.

THE DONETZ BASIN

A thrust into the basin would cut the link between Kharkov and Rostov. If the basin falls into German hands, it would safeguard the German flank and the rear, and make it possible for thrusts towards Stalingrad and the Caucasus. The Donetz Basin is obviously very important to Russians. It is famous for metallurgical production and finer machine tools are being made here. Kharkov is one of the main Russian centres of heavy industry, the chief industries being metallurigical, smelting, engine-building, manufacturing of machinery and agricultural implements, locomotives and electrical goods, elevators, tractors and hydro-electric generators. Mariupol on the sea of Azov is a port of considerable importance. Rostov is the main producer of industrial machinery and there are other places where other manufactures are being made. The pipeline passing through Rostov connects the area with the Caucasian oilfields. This area used to derive its electric power from the giant power-station of Dnieprostrov which has been destroyed.

NAZIS EXPELLED FROM AFGHANISTAN

QUESTION AND ANSWER

(i) Why has the Afghan Government expelled Axis nationals from the country?

Kabul has responded in a friendly manner to well-intentioned representations from London and Moscow.

(ii) Why was the Anglo-Soviet request made?

As in the case of Iran, the presence of Axis technicians in the country constituted a latent threat to India and the defence of the Middle East generally, as well as to the country whose hospitality they have enjoyed.

(iii) What does Afghanistan's action mean?

It means that the danger of this potential Fifth Column is appreciated in Kabul.

Afghanistan's wisdom is in sharp contrast to the behaviour of the ex-Shah of Iran, in whose country Axis agents were numbered in thousands instead of scores and were a more immediate danger, not only to his neighbours but also to his own people.

(iv) How would Axis action in Afghanistan affect India?

Herat is 500 miles from the Caspian and 800 miles from the Caucasus.

The Caspian and Caucasus are two objectives of the German drive now developing on the southern sector of the Eastern Front.

Collaboration of agents planted in Afghanistan might open up a corridor by which Hitler's armies could outflank the Allied forces manning the outer defences of India in Iran, Iraq and Syria and push on to the Khyber Pass.

In any operations which may soon develop in the Near East, India must be the main base from which supplies will be sent to the front line. Air bases in Afghanistan would enable the enemy to bomb supply sources in India and thereby imperil the very existence of the Allied forces on the Caucasian Front.

(v) What is Afghanistan's present position?

Afghanistan remains strictly neutral and her action has done nothing to impair her normal diplomatic relations with any nations—Allied, Axis or other. At the same time she has removed a source of danger to her independence.

(vi) What is to happen to the expelled Axis nationals?

They are to be repatriated to Europe as an Allied gesture of respect for Afghan neutrality and Oriental traditions of hospitality.

FOOD FRONT

Here are some points from a recent speech by the British Agriculure Minister, R. S. Hudson :—

In Denmark farmers have had no oilcake for months and there is no prospect of getting any until the end of the war. At the end of last winter cattle were so weak that many could not stand when turned out to grass.

In Holland farmers cannot get enough fertilisers. They have less than 40 per cent of the normal supplies of phosphates and less than 70 per cent of nitrogen.

In Belgium the food shortage has been so acute that during last spring seed potatoes were taken up from the fields in the night by hungry villagers. There are stories of Belgian children having to make meals of potato peels, while German evacuees from the much-bombed Ruhr get twice the Beligian rations and the German occupation soldiers four times.

In Britain the pig and sheep population has fallen and poultry have been slightly reduced, but the number of cattle is as great as before the war and dairy cattle have slightly increased.

There appear to be ample supplies of home-grown feeding stuffs to maintain these live-stock during the coming winter.

Britain has stocks of wheat, sugar and other foodstuffs in excess of those at the outbreak of war.

More than 16,000,000 acres are under the plough in the United Kingdom and the total output is much bigger than for many years past.

As home production is increased the volume of food imports shows a steady decline.

The British people are saving shipping space by cutting consumption of luxuries and growing more staple food necessaries at home.

The urgent call now is for ships to carry munitions and raw materials to Russia and the people of Britain place the importance of this need above the importance of filling their own bellies. In Beaverbrook's words : "We will forego food from abroad if the ships are needed for Russia. We will give up all our leisure if munitions are required to defend their cities. Shadows we will endure with them and sunshine we will share with them."

THE TERROR IN POLAND

The Nazi jackboot which first ripped open the body of Poland in September 1939, has continued to trample and crush the helpless population for no greater reason than that they are Poles. On the night of October 18, says the Polish Telegraph Agency, 20,000 Jews in Berlin, Vienna and the Rhineland were deported at ten minutes notice, to Poland—presumably Central Poland, in order to make room for German families bombed out by the R.A.F. in those areas.

The conditions in Central Poland were the subject of a remarkable talk to the B.B.C. by Madame Lucille Bronska, on October 15. Madame Bronska was born an Englishwoman but became a Pole by marriage, and has spent ten years in Poland. The Gestapo, she says, is forcibly transferring 9 million Poles from the western provinces, which have been incorporated in the Reich, to the districts in Central Poland. The peasants are dragged out at night and herded in trains and lorries going to the east. From time to time the train or lorry stops, and the guards call to those inside to throw out the corpses. The majority of these corpses are small—in winter children frozen to death in the arms of their mothers. Then the human cargo is dumped in the middle of a countryside already starving, with no means whatever of feeding or clothing themselves, or of securing any work. Continual man hunts in Central Poland secure forced labour to work in German factories. Villages are compelled to deliver a quota of grain to the German soldiery. When one district failed to do so, all the men were summoned, stripped, beaten, their limbs broken and their eyes put out.

"How long, O God, shall men
be ridden down,
And trampled under by the
last and least Of men."

These lines written on Poland by Lord Tennyson about the year 1851, apply to Poland under the Nazis today.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 11—18, 1941

SHOCKS FROM THE SOVIET

"In 3½ months of the Russo-German war we have captured more than 3 million Russian prisoners." (*German News in English, October* 15).
(*Germean News in Hindustani, October* 15.)

These figures, if true mean that virtually the whole of the Russian army has been wiped out. It is surprising that the communiques from Berlin still report of "operations continuing according to plan." Are they therefore beating the air? Having beaten the Russians before the campaign started and sunk more warships than Britain possessed, the Nazis are now performing rope-tricks with armies that vanish and re-appear.

"Germany's successes have already resulted in the encirclement and annihilation of the armies of Marshal Timoshenko." (*German News in English, October* 11.) (*German News in Hindustani, October* 11).

Being asked to recoup the German losses to the extent of a million men, finding the winter "icy like steel" the Italians have other news to give. Here is what the *Stampa* says:—"the German forces have not so far succeeded in encircling the Russian Army completely. The Russian units are still very largely safe and sound." And the defence of Moscow bears them out.

ADOLF FINDS A SOUL-MATE

"Can there still be any doubt that on June 22, 1941, Adolf Hitler took that very step which Churchill had always buried in the deep recesses of his soul?" (*German talk in English, October* 18.)

THE DEVIL AND THE SCRIPTURES

"The Bolsheviks have eliminated all freedom of religion in Lithuania." (*German News in English, October* 15.)

Article 124 of the Stalin constitution expressly provides for freedom of personal belief in Russia, and freedom either to espouse or to denounce religion. This is an experiment in constitutional tolerance which may or may not be approved.

Hitler's view is simple and comprehensive. "The Religions," he said in 1933 to Hermann Rauschning, "have no future—certainly none for Germany."

" The British, and they alone, are the bitterest enemies of Islam." (*German News in Hindustani, October* 15, 1941.)

The Iraqi Minister of Propaganda declared on October 12 the " programme of reconstruction under Great Britain's auspices ' which Syria and the Lebanon in particular, and other Arab countries in general, can now hope to implement is for the benefit of all concerned.

In the Baghdad paper *Az-Azam* Salaman Al Sheik Daud sums up the Nazi " New Order " as follows :—

(*a*) All people should admit the German right to dominate the world.

(*b*) No Nation dominated by the Nazis has the right to choose its own form of government. This is the prerogative of Nazi scholars.

(*c*) Arts and technical industries are the property of the German nation.

(*d*) The world medium of exchange is to be decided by the Reich alone.

(*e*) None have the right to bear arms except those who have German blood in them.

TURKISH DELIGHT

" The Turkish Deputy states that the Turko-German trade agreement is proof that British propaganda has lost its effect." (*German News in English, October.*)

The alleged statement is a typically wishful fabrication of Goebbels. Clodius has had to go back to Berlin without the chrome. Germany may get some chrome in 1943, long after the honourably maintained Turko-British agreement expires and even then only after the goods promised by Germany have reached Turkey.

Turks neither fear nor trust Germany as much as Clodius and von Papen imagined.

THE NEW TERROR

What Hitltr says

" At the present time it is a question of selling other nations a new idea—The New Idea of a New Order of a united community working for every one's benefit." (*German News to S. America, September* 1941.)

Norway

" Germany keeps her promises to Norway. Germany said Norway would regain her independence." (*Oslo Radio, September* 26, 1941.)

Yugoslavia

" Germany wants the nations of goodwill to be partners with equal rights." (*German broadcast, August* 25, 1941.)

France

" France is determined to collaborate with Germany and acclimatize herself to the New European Order." (*German broadcast, September* 1941.)

Prosperity

" The whole aim of the New Order is simply the fruitful collaboration of all European powers in the interests of European prosperity." (*German broadcast, September* 1941.)

What Hitler knows

" Certain fanatics are making criminal attacks on members of the occupying forces. These are irresponsible actions." (*German talk in English, October* 5, 1941.)

Norway

" Either the German Reich takes Norway under her wing or the Norwegian people adopt an attitude which will make it natural for them to march shoulder to shoulder with the German brother nation." (*German broadcast to Norway, October* 4, 1941.)

Yugoslavia

" At this juncture we are on the verge of a civil war." (*Quisung Neditch's broadcast, September* 14, 1941.)

France

" There are enemies of the State everywhere in France and it is doubtful if French prison can hold them all." (*German home radio, September* 26, 1941.)

But for whom?

" We have one million seven hundred thousand foreign workers labouring in Germany. We have Denmark's bacon, Holland's butter, Belgium's potatoes, Rumania's fruit." (*German broadcasts to Belgium and Holland, October* 1941.)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND BRITAIN

24th Oct.—Powerful forces of the Royal Air Force raid North-West Germany, attacking docks at Brest, Cherbourg and Le Havre. Mannheim is raided and enemy aerodromes near Calais and at Lannion are bombed.

In a sweep over Northern France British fighters destroy seven enemy fighters without loss to themselves.

A single enemy aircraft drops a few bombs in North Scotland, causing slight damage.

25th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks objectives in the Rhineland and elsewhere in Western Germany, and also bombs docks at Brest. Coastal Command aircraft attack enemy shipping off the coast of Norway and the Frisian Islands. A large sized supply ship is hit and set on fire.

Enemy activity over Britain is on a small scale and a Nazi bomber is destroyed.

26th Oct.—The Royal Air Force carries out widespread raids, attacking aerodromes in France and Holland, and bombing objectives in Denmark.

27th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacks Hamburg and Cherbourg.

During stray air-raids by the enemy two Nazi bombers are shot down over England.

28th Oct.—The Royal Air Force makes sweeps over Northern France, bombs targets in the Dunkirk area and attacks an enemy convoy off Tershelling. Six enemy fighters are shot down.

29th Oct.—The Royal Air Force penetrates deep into German territory, attacking objectives in south and south-west. The docks at Cherbourg, an aerodrome at Abbeville and military objectives in Belgium are also bombed.

Enemy planes drop bombs at points in south-west England.

30th Oct.—Ships in the harbour of the Norwegian town of Aalesund are successfully attacked by the Royal Air Force, which also bombs barracks and a fish-oil factory.

Brest, Boulogne and Le Havre are raided by the Royal Air Force.

Only one enemy aircraft visits Britain and its bombs cause neither damage nor casualties.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

24th Oct.—An Italian communiqué states that Naples is again raided by the Royal Air Force.

British patrols, along with Abyssinian Patriot forces, are in contact with the only remaining Italian force in Abyssinita.

Light enemy shelling of the harbour at Tobruk is reported.

25th Oct.—An Italian communiqué admits that British planes have bombed Ragusa, Licata, Naples, Tripoli and Benghazi and caused heavy damage. British Naval aircraft raid Bardia.

The South African Air Force attacks the landing ground in Gazala, damaging several aircraft.

In the Central Mediterranean two enemy ships are bombed and machine-gunned.

Admiral Cunningham reveals that in September over 30 per cent of Axis shipping sailing from Italian ports was sunk by British submarines and air force.

26th Oct.—Tobruk town and harbour are raided by enemy aircraft with no damage or casualties resulting.

27th Oct.—Naples is heavily raided by the Royal Air Force. Tripoli and Benghazi are also attacked.

British patrols harass the enemy in the Gondar area.

28th Oct.—Southern Italy is raided by the Royal Ai Force, which blows up a goods train near Cotrone, Benghazi and other Libyan bases are also attacked.

29th Oct.—Italy admits a Royal Air Force raid on Comiso in Sicily.

30th Oct.—There is an increase in the intensity of enemy shelling of the Tobruk area.

The Royal Air Force raids Siderna, Soverato and Locri in Southern Italy, also enemy bases in Libya and Sicily.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

24th Oct.—President Roosevelt announces that United States tank production will be doubled immediately.

Mr. Howe, Canadian Minister for Munitions and Supply, announces that the first 15 of the 100 cruisers produced in Canada for Russia are being shipped this month.

Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, speaking at Washington, says that collision in the Far East is virtually inevitable if the Japanese pursue their expansion plans.

25th Oct.—President Roosevelt declares that " the real and inescapable end of United States foreign policy is the destruction of the Hitler menace."

President Roosevelt assails Nazi reprisal executions in France, declaring that they are revolting to the world and are " the acts of desperate men who know in their hearts that they cannot win."

The American Iron and Steel Institute announces that all previous annual United States steel output records are smashed this year.

The United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee votes in favour of broadening the Armed Ships Bill to permit American merchant ships to sail anywhere on the high seas.

26th Oct.—The third cruiser in America's new 6,000-ton class of warships is launched.

Mr. Attlee, member of the British War Cabinet meets President Roosevelt at Washington.

27th Oct.—The debate on the Bill for the revision of the Neutrality Act opens in the United States Senate.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, emphasises the extreme urgency of delivery of war equipment to Britain and the Allies.

Col. Knox in a Navy Day speech, points to the example of Russia to emphasise the futility of Isolation.

The House of Representatives and the Senate pass the Supplemental Lease and Lend Bill and send it to the White House for signature.

The International Labour Office Conference opens at New York, 33 nations being represented.

28th Oct.—President Roosevelt, speaking at the Navy Day banquet, says " We have cleared on decks " in order to stop Hitler and that America will deliver the goods to Britain and her Allies.

Mr. Roosevelt reveals that he is considering legislation against strikes in the defence industries with specific reference to the one called by Mr. John Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers' Union.

A writer in *The New York Times* states that planes of all types at the rate of about 35,000 a year, are now rolling off the assembly lines of Britain and America and by next July American plants will turn out 250 planes a day.

29th Oct.—President Roosevelt signs the supplementary Lease and Lend Bill.

30th Oct.—Mr. Cudahy, former United States Ambassador to Belgium, urges President Roosevelt to call a Peace Conference and says that Hitler dare not refuse to attend it in view of the terrible German casualties in Russia.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

24th Oct.—The Official Soviet News Agency says that renewed German attacks on the Crimea have been repulsed, the Germans losing over 2,000 killed and wounded.

Marshal Timoshenko takes over command of the Russian Southern Front and Marshals Voroshilov and Budenny are completing the preparation of new armies.

New Soviet reserves have been thrown in on the Central Front.

Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador, and members of the British Mission establish themselves at Kujbyshev. Moscow remains the capital and leading members of the Government, including M. Stalin, are still there.

A Bucharest telegram says that a bomb in an Odessa hotel kills General Glugosianu, Rumanian Commander of the Fortress and fifty other officers and soldiers.

25th Oct.—The Germans claim the capture of Kharkov and the occupation of Belgorod.

The battle for Moscow continues with unabated fury but the Germans do not appear to have made much progress.

Wounded German soldiers are arriving in Warsaw at the rate of between 11,000 and 14,000 daily.

The German drive on Rostov has been checked and the Germans are now on the defensive in this sector.

The Red Banner Baltic Fleet has destroyed within the past few weeks nearly 50 enemy warships, including one Finnish battleship, one German cruiser and 158 German transports, tanks and auxiliary vessel and nearly 300 enemy planes.

26th Oct.—The German claim to have captured Kharkov is premature. Fighting continues on the approaches to the City.

In a fierce battle in the Rostov sector, Soviet troops repel the Germans; intensive fighting continues in the Crimea; and there is most intense fighting in the Donetz Basin too.

The Russians report a successful counter-offensive on the approaches to Moscow.

Soviet troops inflict losses on the enemy in the Kalinin direction of the front in which 4,000 Germans are killed and wounded and much valuable equipment captured.

The *Red Star* reports that the German army has lost 300,000 killed and wounded during the last twenty days in the Crimea.

A Soviet communiqué announces the evacuation at Stalino.

A German High Command Communiqué claims bomb-hits on the Kremlin during night raids on Moscow.

27th Oct.—German forces make some slight progress towards Moscow from the South and South-West but their drive at the important railway centre at Kalinin is firmly held.

The Moscow Radio broadcasts a "Do-not-retreat-one-step" call to the defenders of the capital.

Fierce fighting is reported in the Leningrad sector, one Soviet unit accounting for 37,000 German casualties in four days.

The Finns claim the sinking of two Soviet destroyers in the Gulf of Finland.

28th Oct.—The Germans admit a very severe Soviet counter-attack in the Central sector.

The Soviet Air Force strikes hard at German communications.

The Russians also retain the initative around Leningrad.

In the South, the Germans claim a further advance in the Donetz Basin and it is stated that the threat to Kharkov is intensified but Marshal Timoshenko is speedily reorganizing the Russian Army of the South on the Don river.

29th Oct.—The Germans claim a break-through to the Crimea. The Russians admit a little setback but are fighting fiercely to restore the position.

The Soviets admit the evacuation of Kharkov after terrific fighting.

It is revealed that Marshal Timoshenko is organizing a new line of defence on the Don river.

The Nazis launch a fierce attack in the Orel sector and claim a slight advance towards Tula. They are also bringing fresh reinforcements in the Kalinin sector but elsewhere in the battle of Moscow the Russians not only hold their own but make several counter-attacks.

30th Oct.—The Germans claim some progress towards Tula but the Russians advance five miles in the Mojaisk sector.

Over 300 German planes attempt to raid Moscow but are no more successful than their predecessors and 47 planes are shot down by the Russians.

The Soviet Air Force raids Berlin.

Fierce fighting is reported in the south where the German thrusts towards Rostov are repelled.

THE BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, SYRIA, ETC.

25th Oct.—Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, reveals that British losses in Persia were less than a hundred. He also announces that the Persian Government have already accepted in principle the suggested Alliance with the Soviets and Britain.

26th Oct.—American-built Tomahak fighters, the first batch of a large consignment of Tomahaks and Hurricanes, are delivered to Turkey from Britain.

27th Oct.—The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem arrives in Italy.

Teheran reports that Soviet forces in Iran are withdrawing to the Caucusus are contradicted.

It is revealed that the first consignment of supplies to Russia have already passed through Iran.

28th Oct.—The Turkish Premier warns his country against the dangerous possibilities of the international situation.

King George telegraphs congratulations and good wishes to the President of the New Syrian Republic.

The Iraqi Premier declares that his country will stand loyally by the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of Alliance.

The National Broadcasting Corporation's commentator at Ankara says that the Anglo-Russian Treaty with Iran will be signed this week.

29th Oct.—King George sends a message of congratulations and greetings to President Ineunu of Turkey on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the Turkish Republic.

President Ineunu, addressing the Turkish nation, appeals for increased production as a means of preventing the spread of war to Turkey.

A report is current in Berlin that M. Horia Sima, the Rumanian Iron Guard Leader, has been assassinated.

SHIPPING

24th Oct.—The Admiralty announces that an Italian armed merchant cruiser has been torpedoed by a British submarine in the Central Mediterranean.

It is officially announced that the British destroyer Broadwater has been torpedoed and sunk while on escort duty in the North Atlantic.

25th Oct.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, announces that Britain has sent some naval equipment to Russia and also carried out fourteen separate attacks on enemy transports taking reinforcements for use against the Soviets.

29th Oct.—Col. Knox says that the United States Navy will probably apply a policy of secrecy to the sinkings of any German submarines in engagements with American vessels of war.

30th Oct.—Senator Taft says that Britain has now 25 million tons of shipping, which is four million more than when the war was declared.

Two British ships are bombed from the air outside Spanish territorial waters. One is sunk but the other beats off the raiders.

THE FAR EAST

24th Oct.—Unusually heavy Japanese troop movements are reported in China.

The Australian Air Minister announces that the Royal Australian Air Force is now over 60,000 strong, twenty times its pre-war figure.

25th Oct.—Thailand authorities warn their people that the situation on the Indo-China-Thailand border is unsafe owing to frequent gunfire from over the frontier.

26th Oct.—Recent air-raid drills throughout Japan are more than a mere exercise, according to Lieutenant-General Kawle, Defence Headquarters Chief of Staff who, in a broadcast to the Japanese nation, says that as regards air defence, the moment of danger is swiftly approaching.

27th Oct.—A skirmish between Japanese and Soviet frontier guards s reported in the village of Raskino.

A Chinese spokesman reveals that of the 3,000 Chinese troops who entered Ichang recently, 700 died of the effects of poison gas and 600 were wounded.

The British Ambassador at Tokyo is taking up with the Japanese Government the prolonged and unexplained detention of two British subjects in the Japanese capital.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Dr. Quo Tai-chi, says that a collision between the United States and Japan is inevitable.

29th Oct.—The American Embassay at Peking lodges a protest to the Japanese authorities regarding the shooting of an American sentry by a Japanese national.

The Japan Times and Advertiser, the organ of the Tokyo Foreign Office, says that the border clash reported two days ago between Soviet and Japanese troops was nothing more than a local affair.

30th Oct.—Japan proceeds to place certain key-industries on a complete war-footing.

A Japanese warship strikes a mine in the Yangtse river and sinks.

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

24th Oct.—The town and neighbouring areas of Bordeaux have been ordered to pay a surety of ten million francs as a reprisal for the shooting of a German officer.

It is rumoured that Marshal Petain wants to hand himself over as a hostage to the German authorities in order to prevent the execution of further batches of hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux.

25th Oct.—Mr. Churchill issues a statement, associating His Majesty's Government fully with the sentiments of horror and condemnation expressed by the President of the United States upon the Nazi butcheries in France and declaring that retribution for these crimes must henceforward take its place amongst the major purposes of this war.

Three more Frenchmen are shot by the Germans "for illegal possession of arms and munitions."

General de Gaulle, broadcasting to the French nation, asks all French men and women to stand still for five minutes at 4 p.m. on October 31, wherever they may be, as a gigantic demonstration against the shooting of the French martyrs.

27th Oct.—The Commander of the German occupation troops in France advises the Vichy Government that he has suspended the executions of 100 French hostages at Nantes and Bordeaux in order to give the population a chance to throw light on the recent killing of the German officers.

The Government of Chile protest to the German Government against the execution of French hostages.

The Vichy Cabinet adopts further repressive measures against attacks on Germans and against acts of sabotage.

28th Oct.—It is revealed that H.H. the Pope has made a *demarche* to the German Government against the execution of hostages in occupied France.

The Royal Air Force while bombing military objectives at Nantes, drops leaflets containing a message of hope and deliverance to the French people. The citizens of Nantes joyously acknowledge the message in spite of the fact that the town is surrounded by German troops.

30th Oct.—Vichy bans public or private reception of British radio stations and announces penalties for those infringing this rule.

A cooling off in Franco-German relations is reported, following the execution of hostages by the Nazis.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

24th Oct.—Two hundred more 'Communist' hostages are executed in Yugoslavia as a reprisal for alleged attacks on German soldiers on October 18.

25th Oct.—Fourteen Hungarians, including seven women are executed at Pecs, for alleged subversive activities and illegal detention of arms.

26th Oct.—Under a Netherlands Royal decree, Dutch courts will shortly be administering Dutch law in Great Britain.

The Czechoslovak Independence Day is celebrated at a special service at St. Paul's Cathedral in the presence of President Benes and representatives of all allied Governments.

Dr. Benes reconstructs the Czechoslovak Cabinet (in London).

27th Oct.—Mr. Churchill, in a letter to the Greek Premier on the anniversary of Italy's invasion of Greece, reveals that Greek forces in the Middle East will participate in forthcoming operations.

29th Oct.—It is reported that 13 persons have been shot as a result of the court-martial for alleged sabotage at Travnik in North Bosnia.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

26th Oct.—Mexico's attitude in case the United States enters the war is defined by her Foreign Minister, Senor Padilla, who states that she will honour her given word and the agreement reached at the Havana Conference. Meanwhile various measures have been taken to prepare the country for any emergency.

29th Oct.—M. Gunther, Swedn's Foreign Minister, reaffirms her neutrality.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Information Officer and Special Press Adviser, Madras.]

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